



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

PLANT PROTECTION DIVISION PEST PROGRAM

ASIAN GIANT HORNET STAKEHOLDER UPDATE #21.04 – JUNE 23, 2021

- [New Detection in Snohomish County – Press Release](#)
- [Citizen Scientist Trapping](#)
- [Asian Giant Hornet Life Cycle](#)
- [Exotic Hornet Identification Workshop](#)
- [North American Hornet Screening Tool](#)
- [Adopted Hornet Quarantine](#)
- [TVW Wins Northwest Regional Emmy for Nest Zero](#)
- [Pollinator Week Webinar Series](#)
- [Trapping News Release](#)
- [Update from Canada](#)
- [Stay Connected](#)

NEW DETECTION IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY - PRESS RELEASE

Entomologists from the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) have confirmed the first report of an Asian giant hornet for 2021. This is the first confirmed report from Snohomish County and is **unrelated** to the 2019/2020 Asian giant hornet introductions in Canada and Whatcom County. [Read the press release online.](#)



ASIAN GIANT HORNET LIFE CYCLE



In their native range, all Asian giant hornet colonies follow a specific life cycle.

In the spring, successfully mated queens will attempt to found a nest. Unmated queens will not establishing a functioning nest. Queens begin to lay eggs that will develop into workers and expand the colony. Workers will then emerge and attack honeybees and other insects. At this time, it is important to be on the lookout as those workers become more active while hunting.

ADOPTED HORNET QUARANTINE

On June 2, 2021, WSDA adopted amendments to add all species in the genus *Vespa* (true hornets) to the list of quarantined pests. The adopted rule takes effect July 3.

One of the most common misconceptions about the quarantine rule is that it allows WSDA to seize property or exclude property owners from their property. This is incorrect. The quarantine rule allows

WSDA to access the property to remove a nest. While it does exclude other people until the nest is removed for their safety, property owners and tenants are specifically still allowed on their property. You can learn more about common questions about the quarantine on the [WSDA blog](#).

CITIZEN SCIENTIST TRAPPING



Citizen scientist trapping begins July 1. By participating in trapping, and reporting the results to WSDA, you can help us understand and limit the spread and possibly even eradicate Asian giant hornets from Washington state.

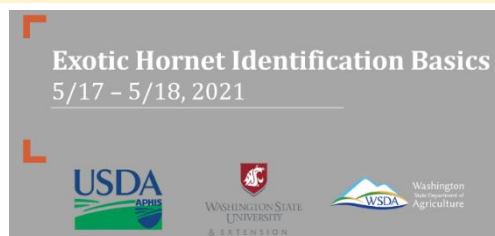
Although we invite anyone in Washington to participate in trapping, we are particularly interested in trapping information from Whatcom, Skagit, Island, Snohomish, King, San Juan, Jefferson, and Clallam counties. [Learn more about how to become a citizen scientist trapper](#).

POLLINATOR WEEK WEBINAR SERIES

National Pollinator Week is June 21- 25. The United States Department of Agriculture is hosting a variety of pollinator-related webinars, including a session on Asian giant hornet. [View the schedule](#) and to learn more and to register for the webinars.

EXOTIC HORNET IDENTIFICATION WEBINAR

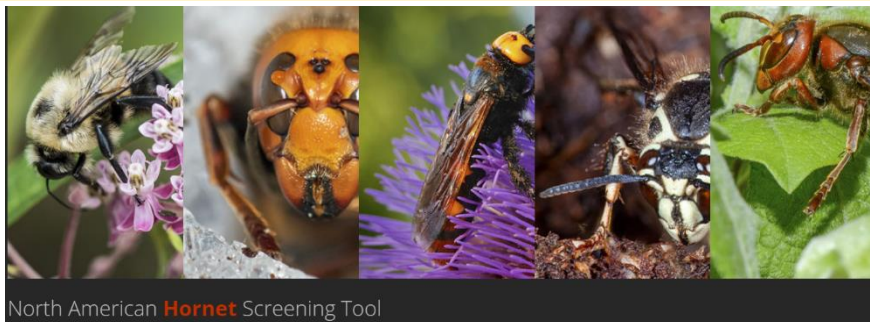
WSDA in partnership with U.S. Department of Agriculture and Washington State University hosted a two day Exotic Hornet Identification Webinar. This webinar had over 150 participants from the United States, the territory of Guam, and British Columbia.



The class focused on the taxonomy, identification, and biology of wasps in the family *Vespidae* – the family that includes Asian giant hornet. The purpose of the webinar was to guide attendees through insect identification and how to screen for potential Asian giant hornet detections. [View the workshop or download resources](#).

NORTH AMERICAN HORNET SCREENING TOOL

USDA developed a North American Hornet Screening Tool to help identify insects submitted as potential Asian giant hornets. It is designed to be used by anyone who may encounter these species and assist in separating the



common non-target bees and wasps from introduced hornets. [Check out the new ID tool](#).

TRAPPING NEWS RELEASE

Trapping for Asian giant hornets continues to be important for locating nests. WSDA is still asking residents to report all suspected sightings, as half of the 2020 confirmed detections were from public reports. Suspected hornet sightings can be reported at agr.wa.gov/hornets, hornets@agr.wa.gov, or 1-800-443-6684. While all reports are encouraged, a photo or specimen is necessary for confirmation. To view the full press release, click [here](#).

TVW WINS NORTH WEST REGIONAL EMMY FOR NEST ZERO

TVW, Washington's national award-winning public affairs network, is pleased to announce its production, *Nest Zero: Murder Hornets in Washington State*, has been awarded a Northwest Regional Emmy® by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Nest Zero: Murder Hornets in Washington State traces the arrival of the first Asian giant hornets in North America, providing an inside look at the battle to keep them from spreading throughout Washington and British Columbia. [The documentary is available to watch online.](#)

UPDATE FROM CANADA

British Columbia has no additional confirmed detections of Asian giant hornet. They continue to encourage reporting. They have started to deploy traps for the 2021 trapping season.

STAY CONNECTED

WSDA is dedicated to working with the public and to providing information on Asian giant hornets.

Contact hornets@agr.wa.gov if you are interested in learning more about Asian giant hornets.

- View [past news releases, blogs, and Pest Program updates](#) about Asian giant hornet.
- Join the [Asian giant hornet Facebook group](#).
- Join the [Pest Program email listserv](#).
- Follow WSDA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [Twitter](#).